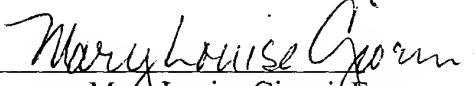


Remarks

The claims are amended herewith in order to bring the form thereof into compliance with the requirements of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and U.S. patent law and to clarify what is being claimed. Specifically, claim 3 was amended to more specifically point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the present invention. Claims 3, 4, 12, 16, 17, 19, 22, 23, 25 and 26 were amended to eliminate instances of multiple dependencies.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: September 12, 2003


Mary Louise Gioeni, Esq.
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 44,589

HESLIN ROTHENBERG FARLEY & MESITI, P.C.

5 Columbia Circle

Albany, New York 12203

Telephone: (518) 452-5600

Facsimile: (518) 452-5579